AVENGERS VS X-MEN
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# LETTER FROM AXEL ALONSO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

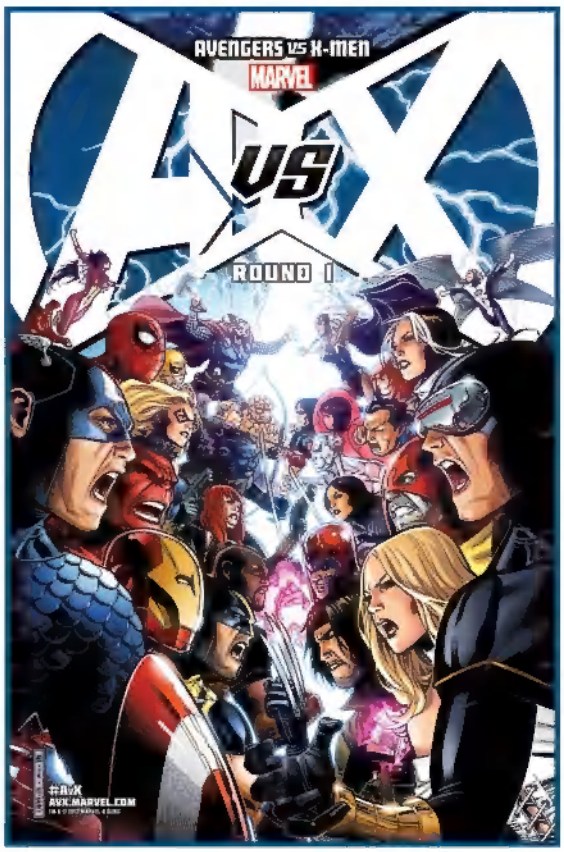
Who'd win? It's a question that you've pondered more than once as you stared at the ceiling into the wee hours of the night. In a no-holds-barred throw-down on a neutral field, who would persevere – Hulk or Thor? Spider-Man or Iron Man? Captain America or Wolverine? This nagging question defines you as a comic book fan. Admit it. Embrace it.

In the Marvel Universe, the solution to all problems lies in some combination of grit, guile and fisticuffs. There always comes a time when push comes to shove, when friend turns to foe, when diplomacy runs off its jagged course, and there's nothing left to do but fight. And when that happens, there's only one question on everyone's mind: Who'd win?

**AVENGERS VS. X-MEN** pits the world's greatest super-hero teams against one another in a battle royal for nothing less than the fate of the world. We've assembled some of our best talent – five writers and three artists whose voices have shaped the Marvel Universe as you know it – to bring you an adrenaline-fueled epic that spans 6 months of publishing. This is the first Marvel event where the *Avengers* and the *X-Men* share an equal stake in its outcome, so it's something you can't afford to miss. There will be twists and turns, sacrifice and redemption, and slugfests between your favorite super heroes that will be the subject of fevered debate. And when the smoke clears to reveal who won and the world they inherited, the future of the Marvel Universe begins.

We've been building to this battle for more than ten years and we're finally ready to ring the opening bell. The battle-lines are drawn. There will be a winner. The question is, who are you rooting for?

**- Axel Alonso,**
**Editor In Chief**



## THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST THE PHOENIX

# SECRET AVENGERS

## FOLLOW THE TEAM IN ISSUE #26

### Ms. Marvel
**ROLE:** Striker
**POWERS:** Flight, Energy Projection & Absorption

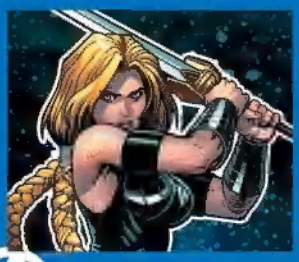
### Thor
**ROLE:** Warrior
**POWERS:** Strength, Durability & Flight

### Vision
**ROLE:** Support
**POWERS:** Density Control, Flight & Energy Projection

### War Machine
**ROLE:** Artillery
**POWERS:** High-Tech Armor

### Captain Britain
**ROLE:** Tank
**POWERS:** Energy Conduit, Flight and Strength

### Beast
**ROLE:** Techie
**POWERS:** Agility, Strength & Intelligence



### Valkyrie
**ROLE:** Slayer
**POWERS:** Durability, Strength & Death Sense

### Protector
**ROLE:** Scrapper
**POWERS:** Insect DNA, Reflexes & Advanced Tech

# WOLVERINE & THE X-MEN

SCHOOL IS IN SESSION ISSUE #9

THE JEAN GREY SCHOOL FOR HIGHER LEARNING

## Wolverine

**ROLE:** The Best There Is

**POWERS:** Adamantium Skeleton, Claws and Healing Factor

## Kitty Pryde

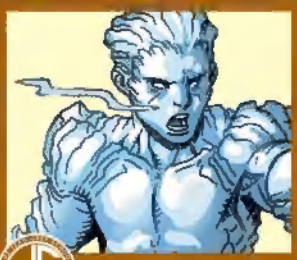
**ROLE:** Headmistress

**POWERS:** Phasing

## Iceman

**ROLE:** Force of Nature

**POWERS:** Ice Control and Manipulation



## Rachel Grey

**ROLE:** Psychic-Striker

**POWERS:** Magnetism

## Rogue

**ROLE:** Multi-Purpose

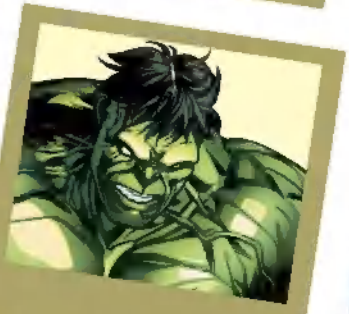
**POWERS:** Power Absorption

UNCANNY X-FORCE

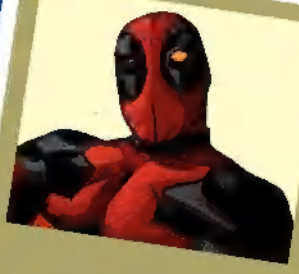
**Quicksilver**
**ROLE:** Scout
**POWERS:** Speed

**Nova**
**ROLE:** Trailblazer
**POWERS:** Flight & Energy Manipulation

**Scarlet Witch**
**ROLE:** Caster
**POWERS:** Probability Manipulation



**Hulk**
**ROLE:** Heavy Tank
**POWERS:** Strength, Durability & Anger



**Deadpool**
**ROLE:** Merc
**POWERS:** Healing Factor, Agility & Deep Psychosis

**Cable**
**ROLE:** Soldier
**POWERS:** Advanced Weaponry, Telekinesis & Telepathy

**WHERE WILL THEY STAND?!**

# WILD CARDS

AVENGERS VS X-MEN
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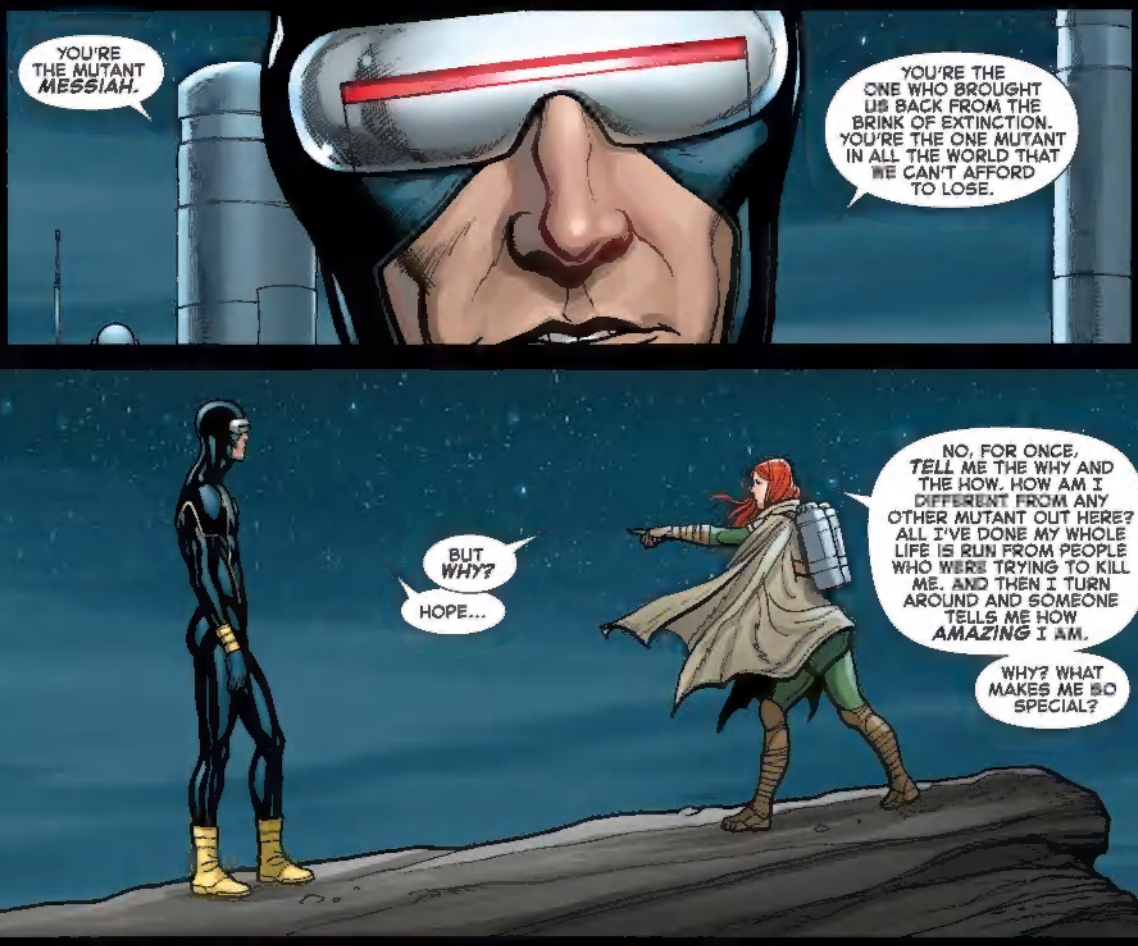
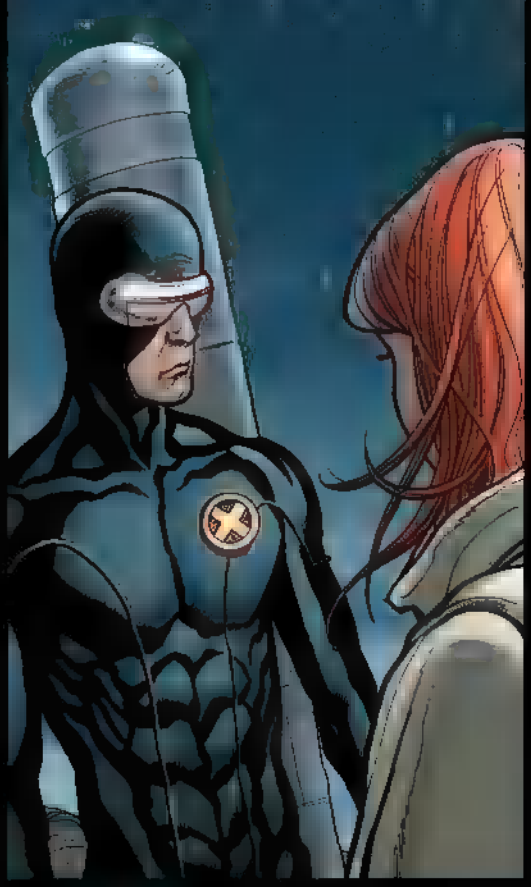
C/o
Keith
ISSUE #0
PREVIEW

ALL RIGHT THEN...
LET'S TRY NOT TO HIT ANY BUILDINGS THIS TIME.
THIS HAS TO STOP, HOPE.
WHATEVER THE HELL THIS IS, IT HAS TO STOP.

FINE, OKAY, YOU CAN HAVE YOUR STUPID JETPACK BACK.
YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
THOUGH YES, I WOULD LIKE MY JETPACK BACK.
YOU'VE BEEN SNEAKING OUT EVERY NIGHT FOR ALMOST A WEEK NOW. DID YOU REALLY THINK I WOULDN'T NOTICE?
I LET IT SLIDE AT FIRST, HOPING YOU'D COME TO YOUR SENSES.
I WASN'T DOING ANYTHING WRONG.
THEN WHY ARE YOU SNEAKING AROUND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D ACT EXACTLY LIKE YOU'RE ACTING. ALL I DO IS FLY AROUND. THERE ARE TIMES I JUST NEED TO...TO CLEAR MY HEAD.
THAT'S NOT ALL YOU DO.
TWO MUGGERS WERE BEATEN HALF TO DEATH IN THE TENDERLOIN LAST NIGHT. THE NIGHT BEFORE THAT, A PAROLED CHILD MOLESTER IN CORONA HEIGHTS HAD HIS LEGS BROKEN. TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT. OR THAT THERE'S NOT A POLICE SCANNER STRAPPED TO YOUR BELT.
PROTECTING A WORLD THAT HATES AND FEARS US. ISN'T THAT OUR JOB?
NOT WHEN IT MEANS NEEDLESSLY PUTTING YOURSELF IN DANGER.
AND HERE I THOUGHT THIS PLACE WAS CALLED UTOPIA. FUNNY NAME FOR A PRISON.
NOW YOU'RE JUST BEING CHILDISH. YOU'VE NEVER BEEN A PRISONER HERE, HOPE, YOU KNOW THAT. BUT YOU ALSO KNOW HOW DANGEROUS IT IS FOR YOU TO BE OUT THERE ON YOUR OWN. YOU'RE TOO BIG A TARGET.
YOU'RE TOO IMPORTANT TO EVERYONE HERE. MOST ESPECIALLY ME.
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF. I'M NOT THE DELICATE LITTLE FLOWER YOU SEEM TO THINK I AM.
NO. YOU'RE NOT.

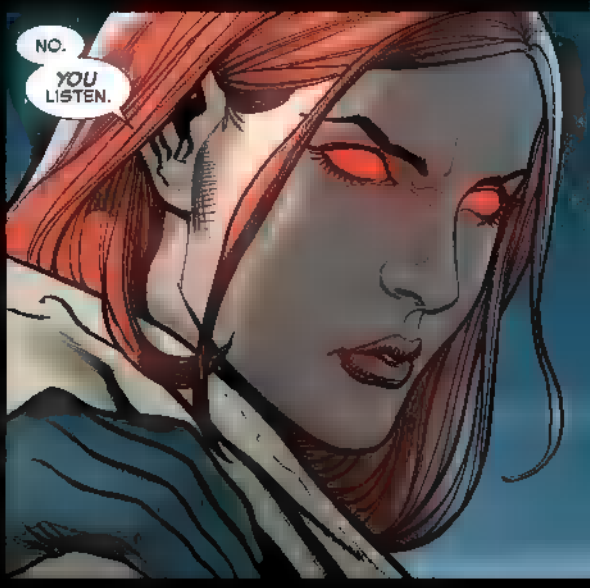

YOU'RE THE MUTANT MESSIAH.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT US BACK FROM THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION. YOU'RE THE ONE MUTANT IN ALL THE WORLD THAT WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE.
BUT WHY?
HOPE...
NO, FOR ONCE, TELL ME THE WHY AND THE HOW. HOW AM I DIFFERENT FROM ANY OTHER MUTANT OUT HERE? ALL I'VE DONE MY WHOLE LIFE IS RUN FROM PEOPLE WHO WERE TRYING TO KILL ME. AND THEN I TURN AROUND AND SOMEONE TELLS ME HOW AMAZING I AM.
WHY? WHAT MAKES ME SO SPECIAL?
EVERYTHING.
THAT'S NOT AN ANSWER.
I WANT THE TRUTH. JUST TELL ME. PLEASE.
TELL ME ABOUT THE PHOENIX.
HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE--
I KNOW MORE THAN YOU THINK I DO. I KNOW IT'S SOME BIG-TIME COSMIC FIREBIRD. AND I KNOW IT'S COMING FOR ME. JUST LIKE IT CAME YEARS AGO FOR YOUR WIFE, JEAN. I KNOW EVERYBODY GETS CRAZY SCARED WHENEVER IT'S EVEN MENTIONED. MOST ESPECIALLY YOU.
SO...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TELL ME WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT GETS HERE?



THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
HOPE, WAIT...
IF YOU WON'T TELL ME, I'LL FIND MY OWN ANSWERS.
ALL UNITS, 10-30 IN PROGRESS AT THE ISOTOPE BANK AND TRUST, 326 FELL STREET...

DON'T YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT IT.
DON'T YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT TRYING TO STOP ME.

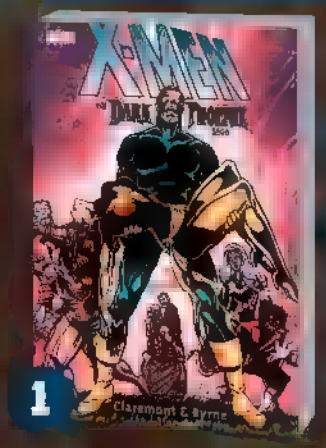
HOPE, JUST LISTEN, PLEASE...


NO.
YOU LISTEN.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
AVENGERS VS. X-MEN #0
ON SALE MARCH 2012

# THE ROAD TO AvX

**Check Out These Collections Now For The Inside Track On AvX!**




**X-MEN: DARK PHOENIX SAGA TPB (NEW PRINTING)**
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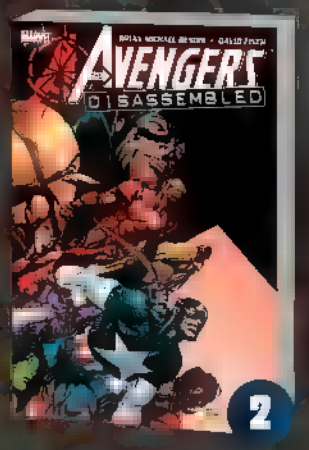
On sale 4/11/12

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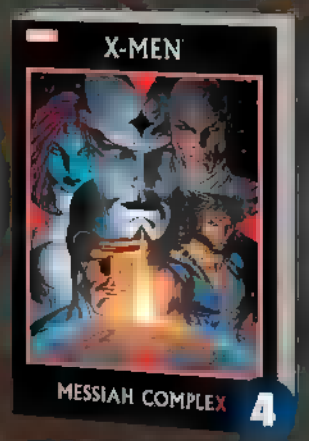


**X-MEN: MESSIAH COMPLEX TPB**
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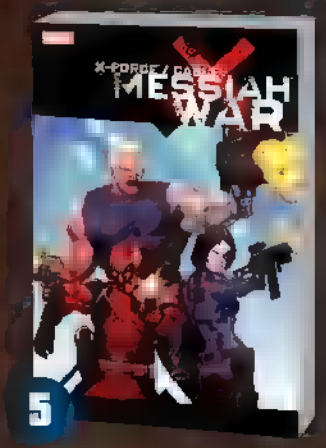


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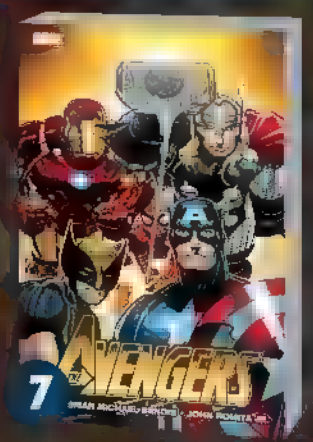


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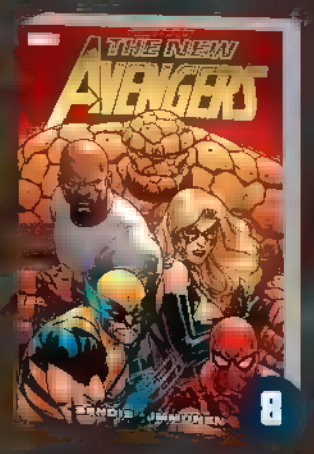


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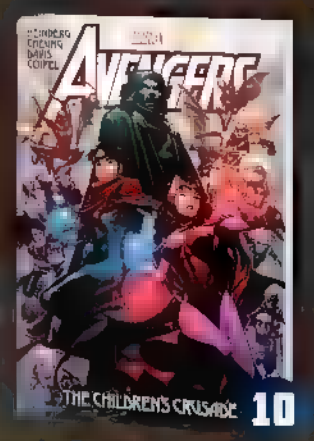


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**X-MEN: SCHISM HC**
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ISBN: 978-0-7851-6497-5
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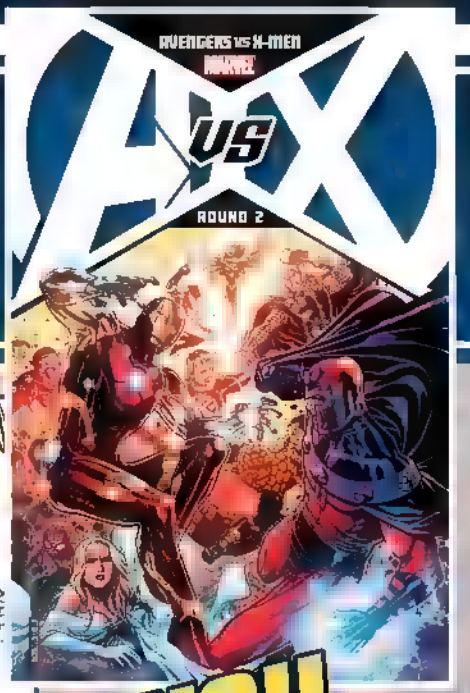
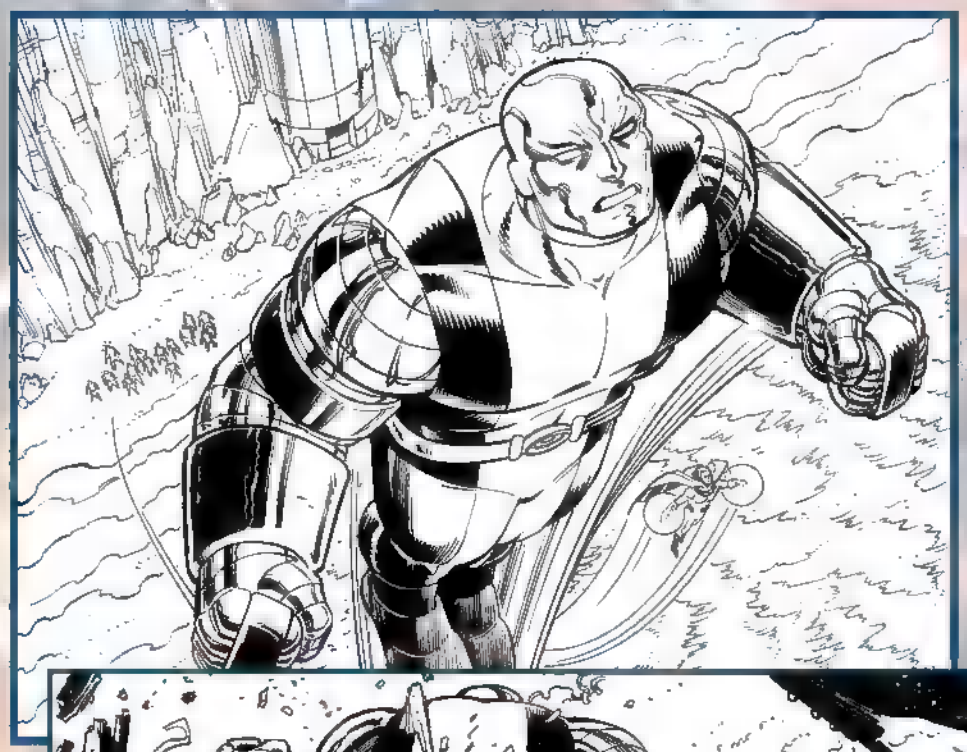
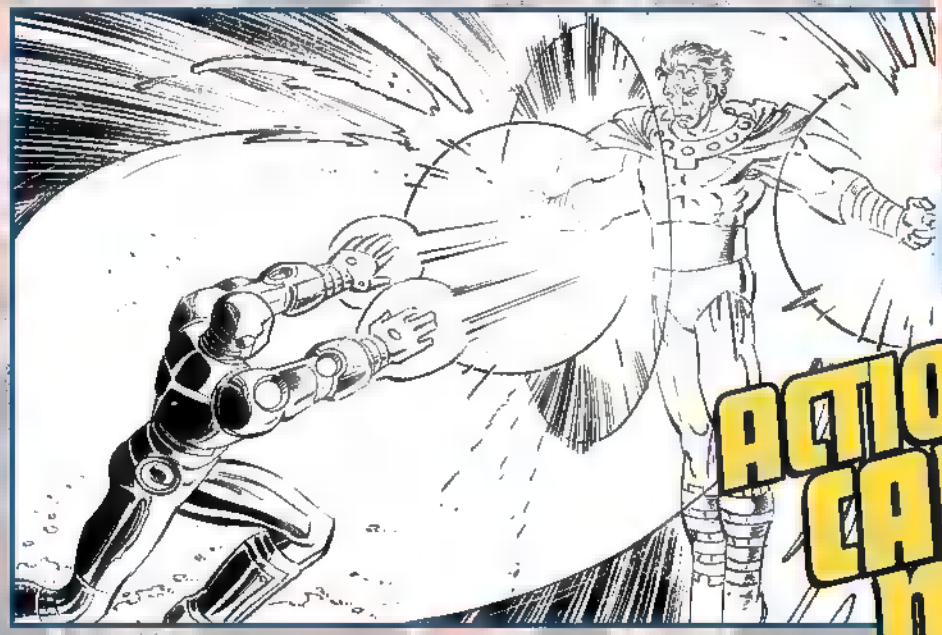
# UPCOMING BOUTS!

## EXCLUSIVE PANELS FROM AVENGERS VS. X-MEN #2

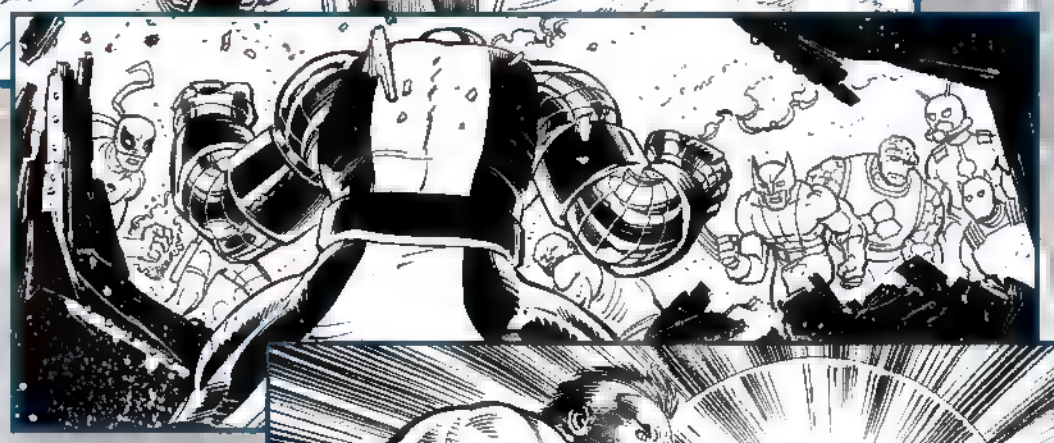
## ART BY JOHN ROMITA JR.

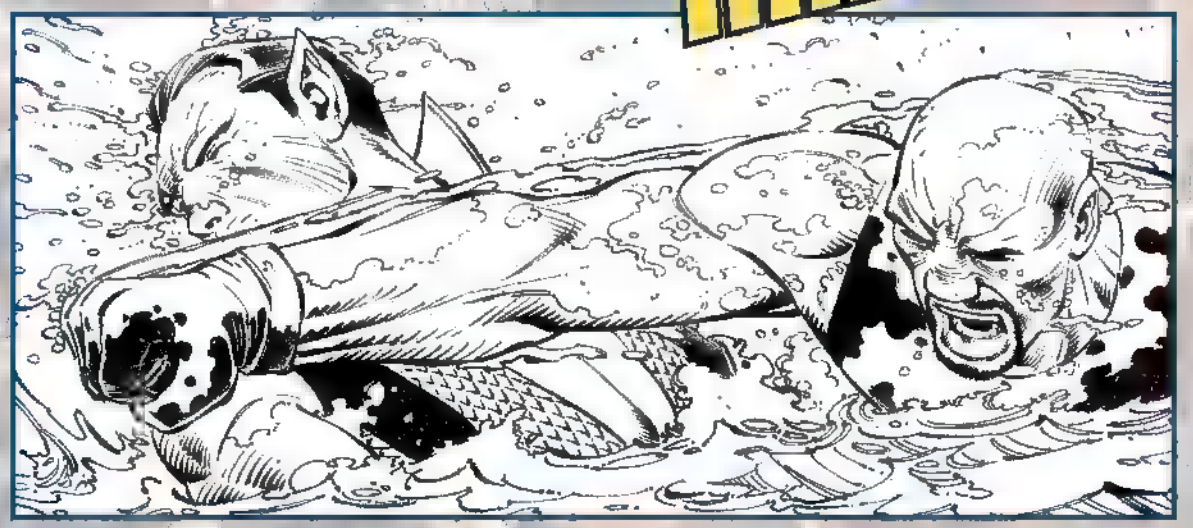


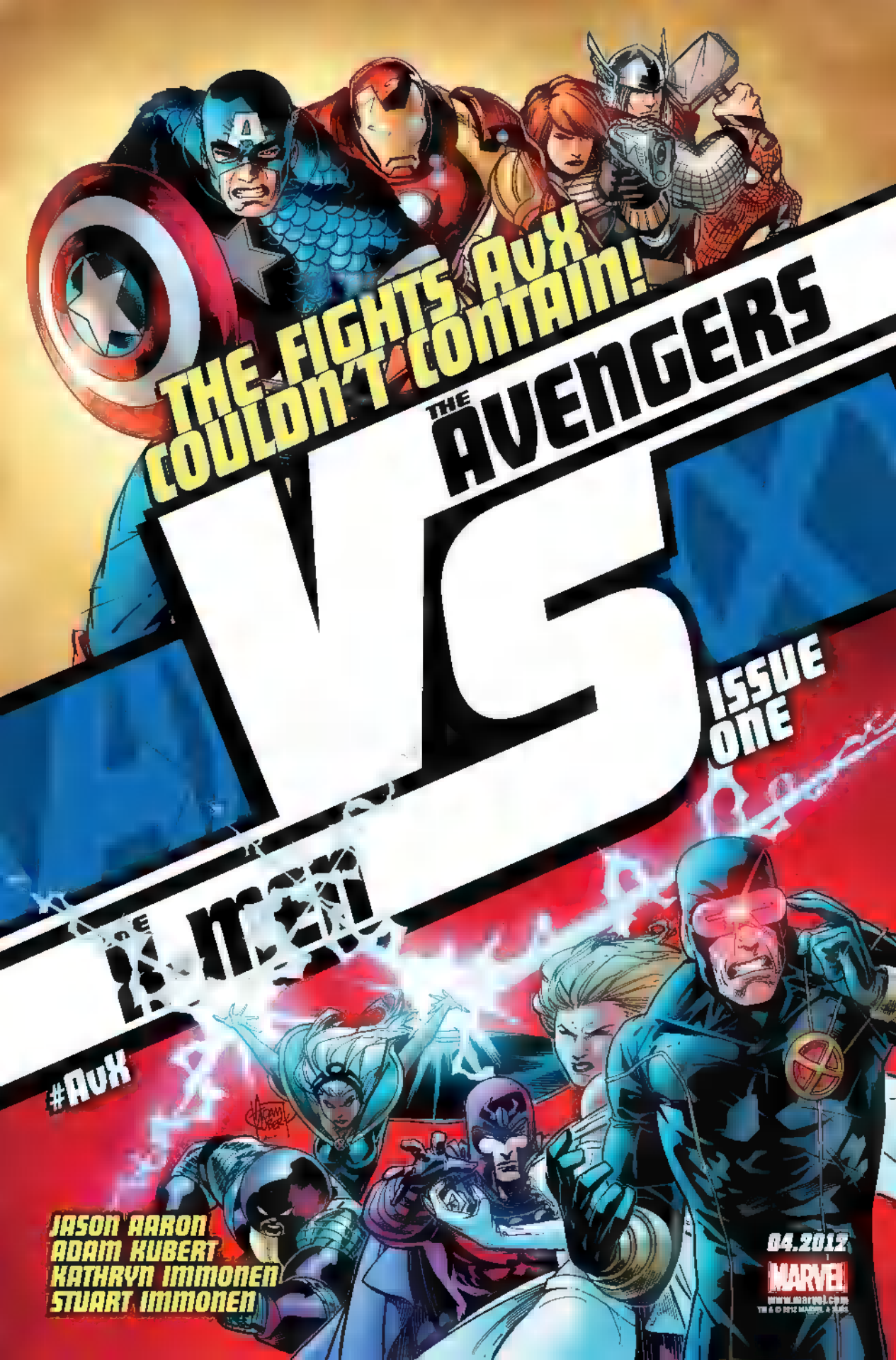


ACTION YOU CANNOT MISS!





COMING APRIL 2012


THE FIGHTS AVX COULDN'T CONTAIN!
THE AVENGERS
VS
ISSUE ONE
THE X-MEN
#AVX
JASON AARON
ADAM KUBERT
KATHRYN IMMONEN
STUART IMMONEN
04.2012
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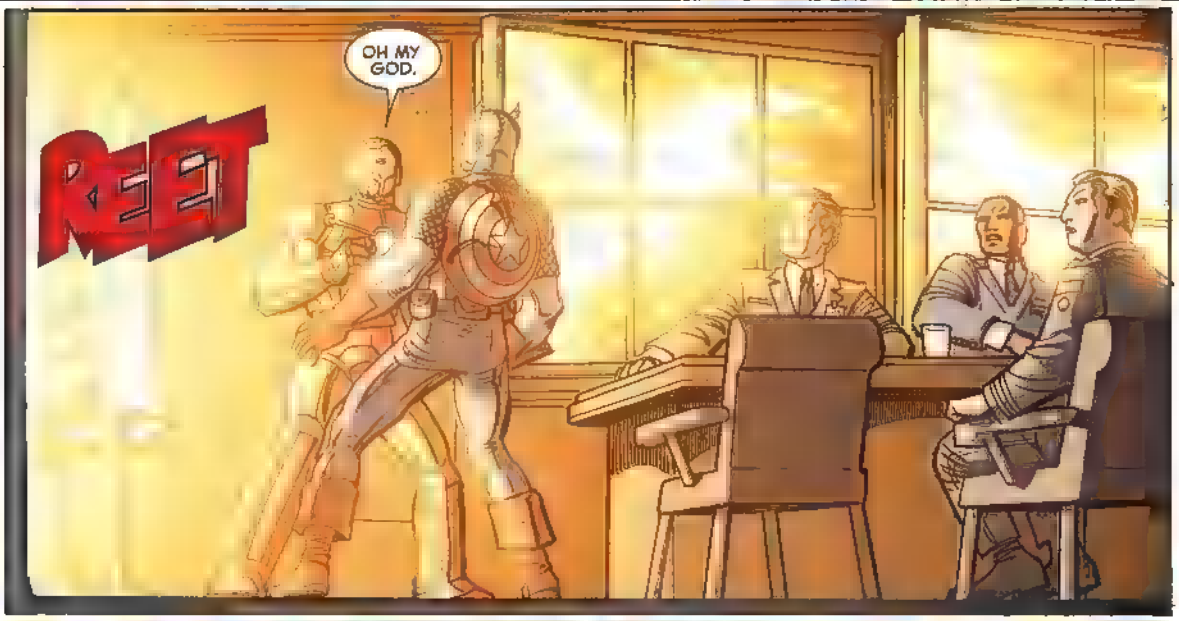
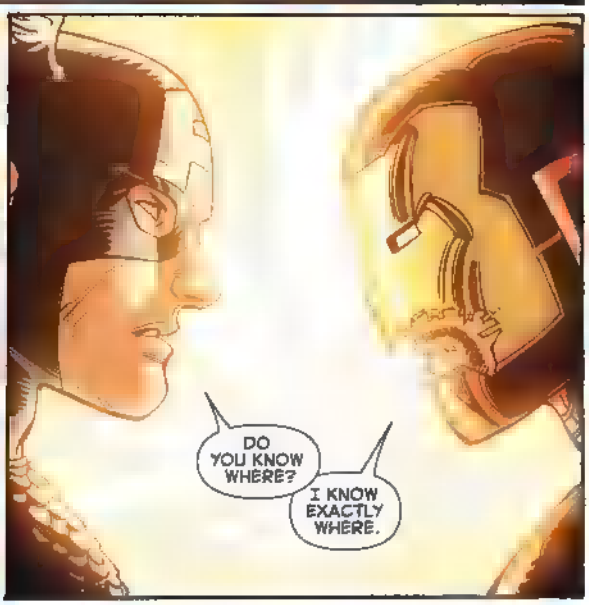
GOOD MORNING, MR. PRESIDENT.
CAPTAIN AMERICA, MISTER STARK...
WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR US?
I KNOW THAT SINCE THE SKRULL INVASION YOU'VE ASKED TO BE KEPT ABREAST OF ANY INTERSTELLAR SITUATIONS THAT WE COME ACROSS.
LAST NIGHT, WE INTERCEPTED THE ARRIVAL OF A MEMBER OF THE INTERGALACTIC NOVA CORPS.
HE CAME WITH A RATHER VAGUE, YET ALARMING, WARNING AND THEN LAPSED INTO A COMA.
THE SCORCH MARKS AND WEAR AND TEAR ON HIS UNIFORM LEAD US TO BELIEVE HE SURVIVED A CONFLICT WITH AN IMMENSE ENERGY SOURCE.
WE HAD BOTH THOR AND TONY HERE DO PERSONAL AND SATELLITE INTERSTELLAR RECON--
WHAT WE FOUND WAS, WELL, DISTURBING.

WE DISCOVERED AN ENERGY SIGNATURE ON NOVA'S UNIFORM.
AND AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, WE'VE ACTUALLY BEEN SEARCHING FOR THIS EXACT ENERGY SIGNATURE EVER SINCE THE JEAN GREY INCIDENT.
JEAN GREY OF THE X-MEN.
ONCE I LOCKED ONTO THE ENERGY SIGNATURE I WAS ABLE TO BACKTRACK NOVA'S ARC OF TRAVEL.
I HAVE RUN THE MATH ON THIS FIFTY DIFFERENT WAYS...
IT IS COMING HERE.
THE PHOENIX FORCE IS HEADED TOWARDS EARTH.
FOR THOSE IN THE ROOM UNFAMILIAR... IT'S A DESTRUCTIVE, PARASITIC FORCE OF COSMIC PROPORTIONS THAT LATCHES ON TO A BIOLOGICAL HOST--
IT THEN USES THAT VESSEL TO LAY WASTE TO THE ENVIRONMENT.
IF IT FINDS A HOST, [redacted] IT FINDS ITS HOST--
WE [redacted] TO DEAL WITH THIS IMMEDIATELY.

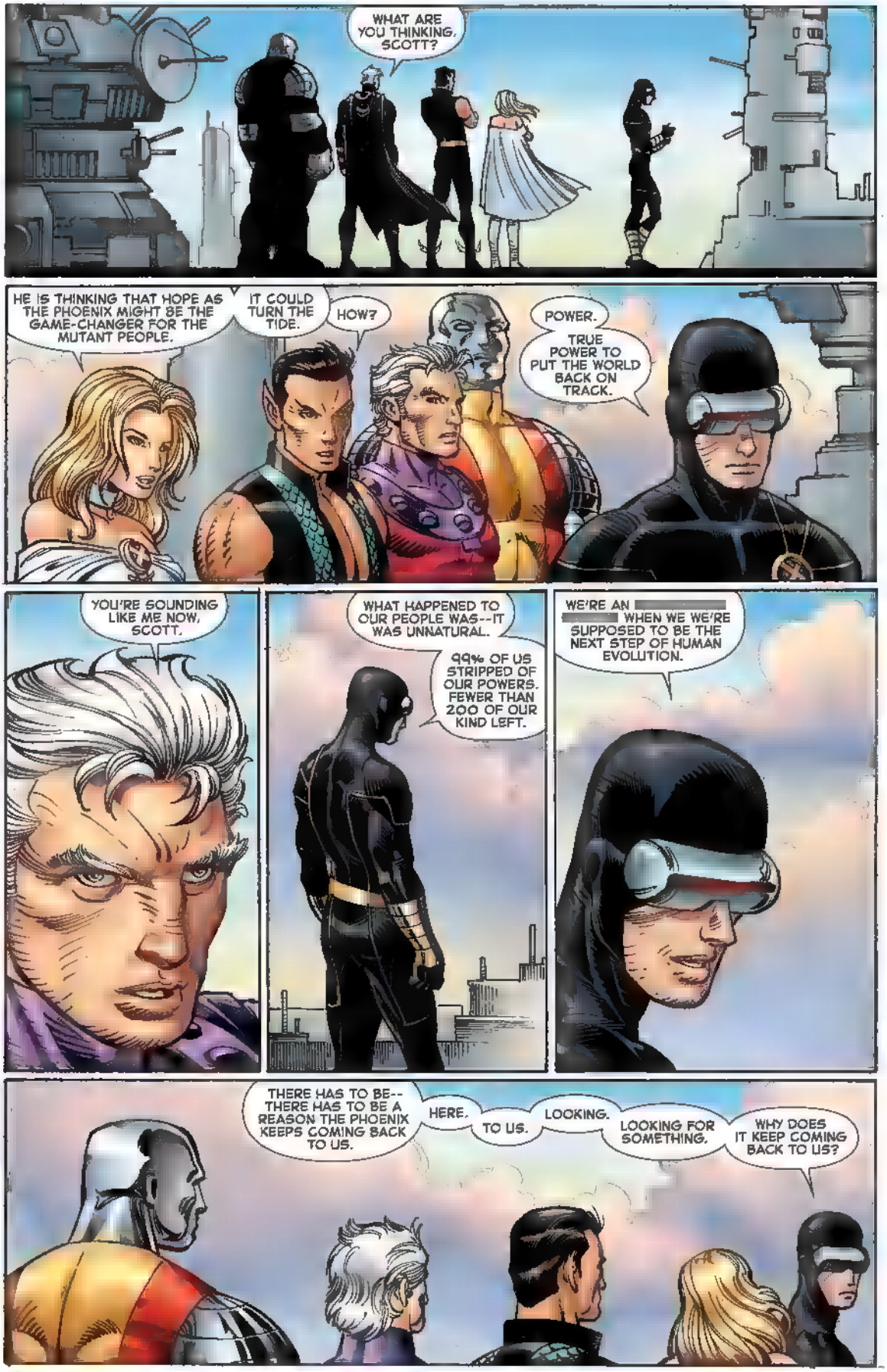
ARE SENDING A TEAM OF AVENGERS TO TRY TO INTERCEPT AND DESTROY THE PHOENIX BEFORE IT GETS HERE.
WHILE IT'S TRUE THAT THERE IS A--
WE SHOULD BE CLEAR, THOUGH, IT'S A SUICIDE MISSION.

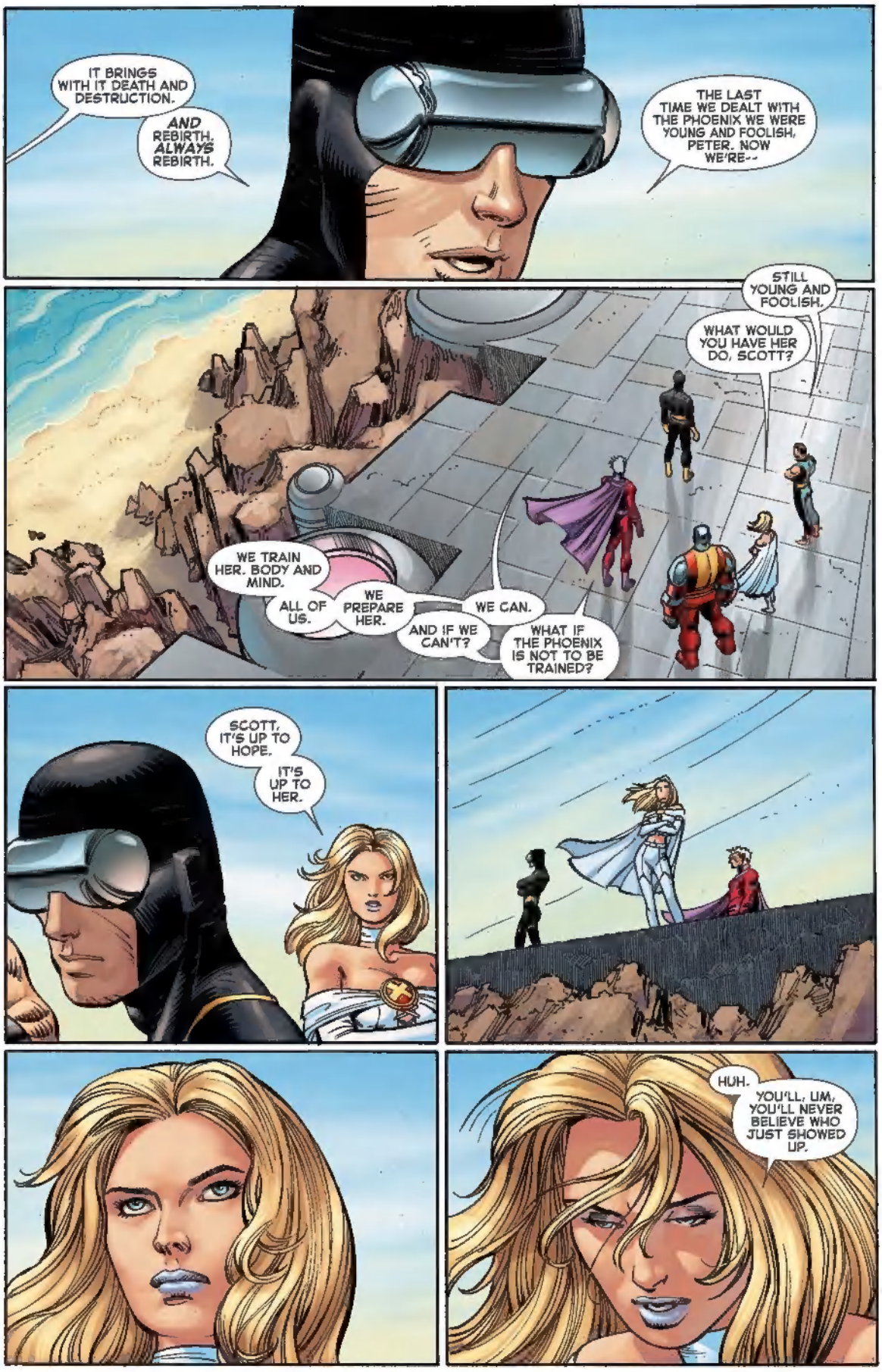

REET
OH MY GOD.

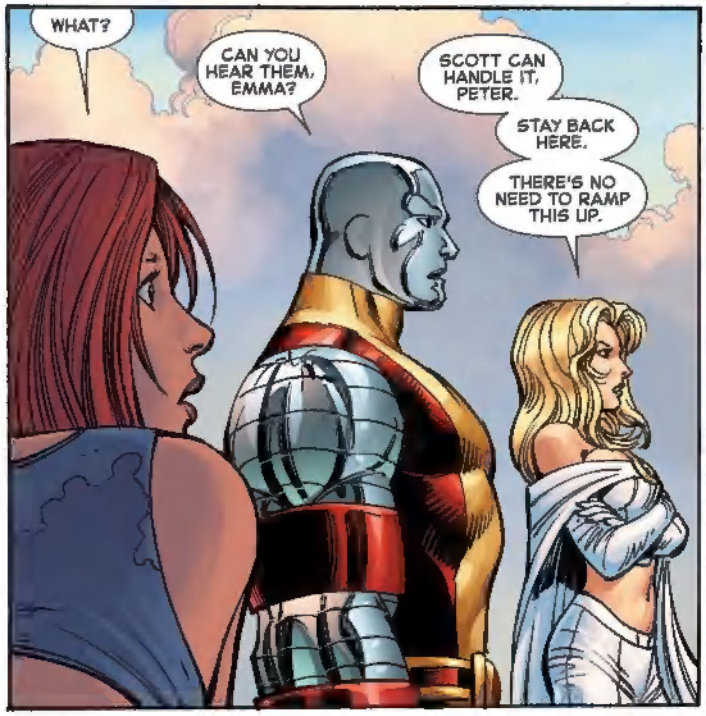
WHAT WAS THAT?
REETI SET PROGRAMS TO ALERT ME IF AN ENERGY SIGNATURE SIMILAR TO THE PHOENIX FORCE FLARES UP ANYWHERE ON THE GLOBE.
AND IT JUST DID.
YES.


DO YOU KNOW WHERE?
I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE.

ARE YOU SURE?
WE'RE SURE.
THE PHOENIX.
YOU WERE THERE WHEN THE PHOENIX FIRST CAME TO EARTH.
JEAN GREY DID EVERYTHING SHE COULD TO TRY TO CONTAIN IT BUT, EVENTUALLY, ALL SAID AND DONE... SHE HAD TO KILL [redacted] TO STOP IT.
KILL HERSELF.
AND IT DIDN'T EVEN WORK.
IT'S COMING TO EARTH. BUT WHERE?
I KNOW WHERE IT'S GOING.
EVERYONE IN THE MUTANT COMMUNITY KNOWS WHERE IT'S GOING.
THEN I NEED SCOTT SUMMERS TO WORK WITH US. [redacted] THE X-MEN AND THE [redacted] TO WORK--
THIS THING KILLED SUMMERS' GIRL AND WITH IT ANY CHANCE HE HAD AT ANY SORT OF HAPPINESS.
THIS THING'S COMING BACK? HE'S GOING TO HAVE AN AGENDA.
AND HE WON'T EVEN [redacted] IT THAT WAY.
I KNOW HIM. [redacted] DON'T EXACTLY LET GO OF THINGS.
THEN CAN I COUNT ON YOU AND THE SCHOOL--?
I MADE THIS SCHOOL TO KEEP THESE KIDS OUT OF THE FIGHTING.
CAN I COUNT ON YOU?


WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, SCOTT?
HE IS THINKING THAT HOPE AS THE PHOENIX MIGHT BE THE GAME-CHANGER FOR THE MUTANT PEOPLE.
IT COULD TURN THE TIDE.
HOW?
POWER.
TRUE POWER TO PUT THE WORLD BACK ON TRACK.
YOU'RE SOUNDING LIKE ME NOW, SCOTT.
WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR PEOPLE WAS--IT WAS UNNATURAL.
99% OF US STRIPPED OF OUR POWERS. FEWER THAN 200 OF OUR KIND LEFT.
WE'RE AN [redacted] WHEN WE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE NEXT STEP OF HUMAN EVOLUTION.
THERE HAS TO BE--THERE HAS TO BE A REASON THE PHOENIX KEEPS COMING BACK TO US.
HERE.
TO US.
LOOKING.
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING.
WHY DOES IT KEEP COMING BACK TO US?


IT BRINGS WITH IT DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.
AND REBIRTH. ALWAYS REBIRTH.
THE LAST TIME WE DEALT WITH THE PHOENIX WE WERE YOUNG AND FOOLISH, PETER. NOW WE'RE--
STILL YOUNG AND FOOLISH.
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE HER DO, SCOTT?
WE TRAIN HER. BODY AND MIND.
ALL OF US.
WE PREPARE HER.
WE CAN.
AND IF WE CAN'T?
WHAT IF THE PHOENIX IS NOT TO BE TRAINED?
SCOTT, IT'S UP TO HOPE.
IT'S UP TO HER.
HUH.
YOU'LL, UM, YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE WHO JUST SHOWED UP.



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